



**Commissioner's Bulletin**  
**Inspectional Services Department**  
**Boston, MA**

**Number:** 2010-07

**Date:** June 10, 2010

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**Subject:** DEFINITION OF "STREET": BOSTON ZONING CODE ARTICLE 2, § 44 AND ARTICLE 2A;

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**Purpose:** This bulletin is issued to ensure the consistent application of the Boston Zoning Code definition of "street" and its applicability to private ways when reviewing applications for building permits. It rescinds and replaces Commissioner's Bulletin 2000-06.

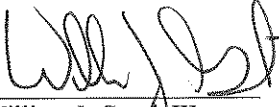
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**Determination:**

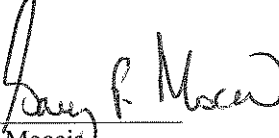
1. ISD employees are to use the following Zoning Code definition and interpretation when determining if a private way is a "street".
2. The Boston Zoning Code, Article 2, § 44 and Article 2A both define "street" as: *a public way, alley, lane, court, sidewalk and such parts of public squares and public places as form traveled (sic) parts of highways.*
3. When determining whether a private way is a "street" employees shall reference the latest edition of Boston's Streets, Squares, Places, Avenues, Courts and other Public Locations as prepared by the City of Boston's Public Works Department (the "Street Directory").
4. Employees shall also determine if the public way is open and available for public passage, either paved or hard pack soil, and not designated as a "paper street". This determination shall be made by the registered Land Surveyor for the proposed project, and shall be shown on the site plans submitted for project review.
5. If a private way is listed in the street directory, and it is open and available for public passage, it is a "street" for the purposes of applying the definitions in Articles 2 and 2A.
6. This bulletin memorializes and is consistent with past and existing practice.

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Signed:

  
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William J. Good, III  
Commissioner

6-23-10  
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Date

  
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Gary P. Moccia  
Inspector of Buildings

6/23/10  
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Date